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THE GULL

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April 1988

Number 4

Volume 70

Berkeley, California

Golden Gate Audubon Society



THAILAND AND MALAYSIA

Chris Carpenter, Extended Field Trips Coordinator, will present our monthly program on Thursday, April 14 at 7:30 at Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, in Berkeley. Chris has just returned from Thailand and Malaysia, where he visited several national parks. In Malaysia he travelled to Taman Negara Park, which contains some of the oldest virgin rainforests on earth. Birding there, he spotted numerous species of hornbills, babblers, minivets, leafbirds, bulbuls and broadbills, all of which can be seen in his slide presentation.

In Thailand Chris visited a colony of Asian Open-bill Storks and saw many other waders and shorebirds. In addition he photographed at Khao Yai National Park, species of barbets, woodpeckers, flycatchers, and sunbirds, as well as the ancestor of our domestic chicken, the Red Junglefowl. In the northern part of the country he toured Chang Mai, visiting local hill tribes and birding such mountain areas as Doi Suthep and Doi Inthanon.

In the past Chris has shown us slides of several of his trips and narrated well-received programs with his jolly intelligence. We believe the highlights of his recent trip, featuring exotic birds, ancient temples and the peoples of these Asian countries will provide a most entertaining evening. Do plan to attend.

BIRD-BLITZ-A-THON-88

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

CELEBRATE AUDUBON'S BIRTHDAY

ENJOY A DAY IN THE FIELD

RAISE FUNDS FOR MONO LAKE

& WETLANDS

How better to celebrate Audubon's Birthday, support our continuing conservation efforts, and enjoy one of our most popular field experiences? A bird blitz! The bird-blitz-a-thon is a field trip and a bird-a-thon rolled into one. Expert leaders will guide you to about 100 species in a day. Of course the day will be quickly paced. You need not be an expert to participate. Just bring your binoculars and checkbook, we'll do the rest.
(continued on page 61)

FIELD TRIPS CALENDAR

Saturday, April 2—Bodega Bay. See *The Gull* for details, p. 36.

Sunday, April 3—Golden Gate Park. Traditional Easter Walk. See *The Gull* for details, p. 36.

Saturday, April 9—Bothe-Napa State Park (Beginners' Trip). See *The Gull* for details, p. 36.

Saturday, April 9—Point Reyes National Seashore. See *The Gull* for details, p. 36.

Sunday, April 10—"Vintage Birds II". See *The Gull* for details, p. 41.

Wednesday, April 13—Mini-trip to Sunol Regional Park. See *The Gull* for details, p. 36.

Saturday, April 16—Mines Road, Livermore. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Nob Hill Shopping Center at S. Livermore and Pacific in Livermore. From there we will drive on mountain roads to Patterson. Bring food and liquids. We can expect to see Northern Orioles, Lewis' Woodpeckers, and Phainopeplas in this habitat. Roadrunners and Wild Turkeys have also been seen on this trip. Those who want to can continue with the group until dark. Leader: Art Edwards (447-3720).

Sunday, April 17—Beginners' Trip to Five Brooks, Bolinas Lagoon, and Audubon Canyon Ranch. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Five Brooks parking lot (about three miles south of Olema on Hwy. 1). We will look for early spring migrants near the pond, then caravan to the Audubon Canyon Ranch. Bring your lunch and we will picnic at the

Ranch (\$1 contribution). After lunch we'll walk up to the overlook to see the nesting herons and egrets. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. Leader: Gloria Markowitz (892-2910).

Saturday, April 23—Birdathons. GGAS will sponsor three birdathons as a benefit for Mono Lake and our Chapter. The birdathons will be on the San Francisco Peninsula, in East Bay and Alameda. Details will be found at page 62 in this issue.

Sunday, April 24—Birding by Ear in Briones Regional Park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west entrance to Briones Regional Park off Bear Creek Rd. Take Hwy. 24 to the Orinda turnoff. Exit and take San Pablo Dam Road northwest about two miles to the Briones Regional Park entrance on the right. Meet in the parking area on the left just beyond the fee booth. Be prepared to hike five miles and carry lunch and liquids through hilly terrain. Be sure to bring a hat or sunscreen. We will study the songs and calls of common breeding birds of the East Bay. Leader: Dave Cornman (825-2106). (\$).

Saturday, May 7—Wildcat Canyon Regional Park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. by the Arlington Park Clubhouse on Arlington Blvd. (next to the tennis courts between Brewster Drive and Thors Bay Rd.) in El Cerrito. From there we will make a short drive to the starting point. Pack lunch and liquids for a six mile hike. Boots are advisable. We will encounter hills as we walk a transect of the canyon to bird in brushlands, oak woodlands, riparian streambanks and

grasslands. We anticipate seeing a few late migrants and a good representation of nesting birds of the East Bay. We will also identify common trees of the area. People with allergies should be aware that we will encounter grassy conditions. The trip will end at 2:00 p.m. Leader: Malcolm Sproul (376-8945).

Wednesday, May 11—Mini-trip to Briones Regional Park. Meet at the park at 9:30 a.m. Take Hwy 24 east to the Orinda turnoff. Turn left and follow San Pablo Dam Rd. about two miles to Bear Creek Rd. turnoff. Turn right and drive about two miles to Briones Regional Park entrance on the right. Wildcat Canyon Dr. through Tilden Park (from the top of Spruce St.) will also take you to the San Pablo Dam Rd. and the Bear Creek Rd. junction. We should see Northern Orioles, Lark Sparrows, Ash-throated Flycatchers and Lazuli Buntings. Leaders: Anna Wilcox (351-9301) and Jean-Marie Spoelman.

Trips marked with \$ go to parks or other sites which require an entrance fee.

—FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE

OBSERVATIONS

January 26 through February 23

The month was characterized by warm, dry, enjoyable birding weather but few new rarities, at least here in northern California. More exciting birding was in southern California where a female Xantus' Hummingbird was sitting on a nest in the yard of a Ventura residence (resident?). A male and female Broad-billed Hummingbird were nearby. If confirmed, the Xantus' would represent the first occurrence of this species in the United States. In our area lingering rarities comprise the bulk of the records. The SE Farallones remains silent.

Waterbirds

Cattle Egrets were noted from three locations: 10-14 lingered near the Monterey Bay Academy, Santa Cruz Co. Jan. 24-25 (DLSu) with 4 there Jan. 29 (DSi); 34 near Gustine Jan. 31 (RHa); and 1 at Lake Merritt Feb. 13 (seen on and off since Nov.) (JM, et al.).

Small numbers of Tundra Swan near the coast are reported each winter. The largest group this year was of 20 near Inverness Park Jan. 28-Feb. 13 (RHa, JHz). Two blue phase Snow Geese were noted at Merced NWR Jan. 24 (AB). The **Emperor Goose** remained at Alameda South Shore throughout the period (mob). A Eurasian Green-winged Teal was at Hayward Shoreline Feb. 8-15 (RJR). Eight additional Eurasian Wigeons were found in our area during the month (mob). A male Tufted Duck inhabited Bel Marin Keys, Marin Co. Feb. 12-20 (JCS, JR, MFe). Another male Tufted Duck was near the picnic area at O'Neal Forebay Feb. 21-23 (MJL, JMa). A Harlequin Duck returned to Rodeo Lagoon Jan. 27-Feb. 7 (CLF, GHg). The Bolinas Lagoon male Harlequin was reported Feb. 6 (DAsh). A male Harlequin Duck, found in San Francisco near the Marina area Feb. 6 (JDu) and near the Ferry Terminal Feb. 11 (CoB), was probably attracted in during a herring run inside the Bay. At least six of the eleven Oldsquaws found during the period were continuing birds. The same herring run lured another two Oldsquaws inside the San Francisco Bay Feb. 3-17 (JDu, ACr), and another was just west of Vallejo Jan. 31-Feb. 8 (MBG, CO'C).

Two Black Rails flew quickly past the observation platform at the Elsie Roemer Sanctuary, Alameda South Shore at high tide Feb. 3 (BJ, et al.), and one was seen there Feb. 18 (SMo). Small numbers of Lesser Golden-Plover continued to be seen at Lawson's landing (seven), and Spaletta Plateau (nine)

during the period (RH_a), and a single individual was found at the Lodi sewage ponds Feb. 10 (JR). The Rock Sandpiper at Princeton Harbor jetty was last reported Jan. 30 (PhR). The adult Little Gull was still being seen at Stockton sewage ponds at least through Feb. 9 (GKN). First winter Glaucous Gulls were noted from Santa Cruz Co. as follows: one at the Pajaro River mouth Jan. 25 (DLSu), one at the Santa Cruz waterfront Feb. 15 (same bird?), and one at Waddell Creek mouth Jan. 27 (CKf). Another was seen at Pescadero Creek mouth Jan. 30 (PhR), and another was reported from Fort Point in San Francisco Feb. 2 (MLR). A Black-legged Kittiwake continued to be seen in Bolinas Lagoon through Feb. 6 (DASH).

Landbirds

A Northern Pygmy-Owl was found along the east edge of Putah Creek Jan. 31 (PEG), and two were heard in the Little Yosemite area of Sunol Regional Park Feb. 4 (KGH). A Northern Saw-whet Owl along the American River at Discovery Park Feb. 14–18 was fairly easily seen at its day roost (GKN, mob).

An adult male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker found a Moraga residence Jan. 24 (GA), and the immature Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at the Cheese Factory south of Petaluma was still present to Feb. 20 (PhR). A Red-naped Sapsucker was at Sunol Regional Park Feb. 4–5 (KGH). The Inverness **Hammond's Flycatcher** was refound Jan. 26 (DWm), and the **Hammond's** at Redwood Regional Park continued to be seen at least through Feb. 6 (JR, ToC). The **Eastern Phoebe** in Modesto was near the entrance to the Faith Ranch #2 through Feb. 22 (HMR, KGH). The **Dusky-capped Flycatcher** remained at the Monterey Bay Academy at least through Feb. 21 (RAC, BHi, mob).

An American Dipper was near Kent Lake Dam in Marin Co. Feb. 10 (ScC).

A Townsend's Solitaire was found at the foot of Vision Rd. in Inverness Feb. 21 (DDeS). The Bendire's Thrasher on Jahant Rd. in Lodi was still present through the end of the period (AWi).

Wintering western warblers included a Nashville along Corralitos Creek, Watsonville Community Hospital Feb. 2 (DLSu), a Black-throated Gray east of Pescadero Jan. 31 (PJM), another Black-throated Gray in Golden Gate Park Jan. 31–Feb. 5 (PD), and a Wilson's Warbler at Middle Lake in Golden Gate Park Feb. 21 (ASH). The Virginia's Warbler at Kewin Park in Modesto was last seen Jan. 30 (EH_a). A Chestnut-sided Warbler, very unusual in winter, found at Navalette's nursery in Livermore Feb. 9 (KGH), was present at least through Feb. 23 (AWi). Two Prairie Warblers continued to winter locally: one at the north end of Bolinas Lagoon Feb. 6–7 (CO'C), and the other at the Princeton Inn Feb. 14 (JCS). Four additional Palm Warblers and one more Black-and-white Warbler were found locally during the period (mob). The Black-and-white Warbler which had been wintering east of the town of Pescadero was found dead Feb. 15 (CKf). The American Redstart in Pescadero continued to be seen through Feb. 15 (JCS). Two Summer Tanagers, male and female, wintered along Corralitos Creek (RAC, DLSu), with at least the male present to Feb. 14 (DWh). A female Indigo Bunting was found at a private residence near Ano Nuevo Jan. 31 (PJM). The only Sharp-tailed Sparrow noted during the month was one at Pine Gulch Creek mouth, present at least to Feb. 6 (MJL, DASH). A Swamp Sparrow was seen at that location Jan. 31 (MJL), and the Swamp Sparrow near Modesto was still being found through Feb. 22 (HMR). Three "new" White-throated Sparrows were detected during the period (PJM, MMy, PC).

The Harris' Sparrow in north Stockton remained through Feb. 21 (mob). Another was discovered east of Pescadero Jan. 31, and seen through Feb. 14 (PJM, RSTh, CS). The Great-tailed Grackle at Aquatic Park continued to add interest to San Francisco bird lists through the month (JEL). The male Orchard Oriole in Pacific Grove was present at least to Jan. 30 (RAc), and a Northern Oriole "Bullock's" was at Elk Glen Lake, Golden Gate Park, Feb. 21 (ASH). Good numbers of Red Crossbills were: thirty at Monterey Bay Academy Jan 27 (DLSu), and twenty on Estero Trail, Pt. Reyes Feb. 7 (MBu). Several were seen near Middle Lake in Golden Gate Park Feb. 15 (LSi).

Erratam: In last month's *Gull*, observer listed as John Ashford is really John Asher. Sorry John!

Observers: Richard Ackley, Garth Alton, Dick Ashford, Alan Baldridge, Florence Bennett, Mildred Bennett, Courtney Beuchert (CoB), Mark Butler (MBu), Marlene Butler, Scott Carey (ScC), Tom Condit (ToC), Paul Covell, Andy Cratter, Dave DeSante, Gary Dickey, Peter Dramer, Janet Duncan, John Elk, Carter L. Faust, Marc Fenner, Wilma Ghiorso, Philip E. Gordon, Edward D. Greaves, Marguerite B. Gross, W. Edward Harper, Ed Hase III (EHa), Rob Hayden, Javier Hernandez (JHz), Kevin G. Hintsu, Bob Hirt (BHi), Alan S. Hopkins, George Hugenberg (GHg), Joan M. Humphrey, Robert Jarrell, Richard Jeffers (RJe), Rena Kaufmann, Clay Kempf (Ckf), Bill Lenarz (BiL), Robin Leong, Michael J. Lippsmeyer, many observers (mob), John Mariani (JMa), Richard Mason, Peter J. Metropulos, Joseph Morlan, Scott Morrical, Daniel P. Murphy, Mimi Myers, Gary K. Neil, Chuck O'Connor, Michael Per-

rone, Steve Perry, Lina J. Prairie, Harold M. Reeve, Jean Richmond, Richard J. Richmond, Mary Louise Rosegay, Phil Rostron (PhR), Dianne Sierra, Larry Silver, Todd Smith, Christ Spooner, John C. Sterling, David L. Suddjian, Ron S. Thorn (RSTh), David Wharton, Anna Wilcox, David Wimpfheimer (DWm).

Please report observations to Northern California Rare Bird Alert: 528-0288 or 524-5592.

—HELEN GREEN

Observations Editor

2001 Yolo Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94707

CONSERVATION NOTES

FAIRMOUNT RIDGE, SAN LEANDRO

GGAS members and friends are invited to participate in an exploration of an area adjacent to Lake Chabot Park threatened by Alameda County proposed sale to developers.

Geology buffs will enjoy the revealed Hayward Fault and the juxtaposition of various soils that accounts for the richness of flora. Birders will enjoy the avifauna, and will list the species seen. Rare plant species are found in the area, and additional rarities are probably there to be found.

Join the Native Plant Society Chapters, Audubon Chapters, and other activists in an exploration and a letter-writing effort to preserve this ridge as open space. Meet Lee Main at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16 at the trailhead. Look for signs and parking east of the Alameda Co. Animal Shelter. (Lee Main, 632-9606, work; 471-3263, messages).

BACK YARD BIRDER

Recently I read an article on skimmers and was reminded of the only time I saw a member of this family. It was feeding in the late afternoon on a Caribbean bay. There have been a few records of skimmers on the Salton Sea in California but they are mainly found from Texas and the Gulf Coast and up the Atlantic coast as far north as Massachusetts. They winter in South America as far south as Argentina.

There are only three members in this family: "our" Black Skimmer (it happens to be the largest), the African Skimmer and the Indian Skimmer. They resemble a tern, but they are not as closely related to gulls and terns as first thought. They are indeed unique.

The Black Skimmer has a brown to black upper body with a white underside. Its short legs are yellow or red and the front three toes are partially webbed though they seldom swim. Skimmers are about 20" long and have a tremendous wing span—up to 50"—and a short forked tail. By far the most amazing characteristic is the red, black-tipped bill. It appears remarkably chunky when seen from the side, but head-on it is barely perceptible because it is so thin. It is the only known bird with a lower bill that is markedly longer than the upper bill. What's more, it is not only knife-like but it has fine ridges that are highly sensitive.

Why would a bird develop such a specialized bill? It's unique method of feeding, skimming the surface of water for food, dictates the shape of its bill. As the bird skims close to the water's surface, its lower bill shallowly cuts the water until it comes into contact with a fish or a crustacean. The bill then snaps shut, the bird's head and neck double under the body to absorb the

shock. As the bird gobbles its morsel, its head is actually facing backward under its body. Meanwhile, the bird's tail fans out as a sort of brake, the wings flutter and as soon as its head comes forward, the Skimmer is on its way, still slicing the water with its bill.

Despite the wing span, the skimmer's flight is graceful, with a shallow beat rather than a strong downbeat. They exploit an aerodynamic phenomenon called ground effect which saves them much energy in what would appear to be an exhausting method of finding food.

Baby skimmers' bills are "normal"; the lower bill doesn't begin to grow longer than the upper until the bird is nearly full-grown. Then, the lower bill grows all the bird's life, no doubt because it is constantly being worn down or damaged by shells or rocks as the bird feeds.

Another unusual feature of the skimmer is the cat-like eyes. The pupil has a vertical slit which it narrows to reduce the glare of light on water. The pupils are quite large for vision in dim light. This facilitates feeding when waters are calm—in early morning, late afternoon or even moonlit nights.

Sounding like a kennel of dogs, skimmers are gregarious and nest in colonies. Sadly, because they prefer soft, sandy beaches, they are being driven out by people and dogs. In Texas, e.g., they now nest on islands created by dredging. Since this isn't soft sand, the birds' eggs cannot be rotated during incubation in the sticky mud. This, plus the DDT they ingest while wintering in South America, has caused a 25% drop in their numbers.

Not only are their bills sensitive, but skimmers react to wind. In any breeze mightier than 5 MPH they turn to face the wind to minimize ruffling of their

feathers. They present a wonderful picture, bodies and bills seemingly too large for their tiny legs to support, the white of their brows giving them a blind-folded appearance. I hope they will be with us for ages to come so that many of us may appreciate their uniqueness.

—MEG PAULETICH

PRBO SHOREBIRD CENSUS

There is still time to be a participant during the third weekend in April, when Point Reyes Bird Observatory holds its first census of shorebirds using the Bay's tidal flats. This census is designed for volunteer participation. Experienced observers can conduct counts of specific sites and novices can assist the counters. It is timed to coincide with the peak of shorebird spring migration. Coordinators are Dave Shuford and Lynne Stenzel. Call either for more information at 868-1221.

ESKIMO CURLEW REPORTS

Numenius borealis is reportedly not really extinct. Sightings in the early sixties have not been repeated until several observations were made of individuals on migration in the central and southern United States and in several areas of Canada. One was seen in mid-April, 1987 on the Platte River in Nebraska and two more were reported along the Texas coast in late April and early May. Finally, in late May Canadian Wildlife Service biologists found a pair in the Canadian Arctic, and may have found a nest. The American Ornithologist's Union suggests that increasing public awareness and protecting and managing migration stopover areas will aid in

this species' recovery.

The Saskatchewan Natural History Society (Box 1121, Regina, Sask. S4P 3B4) has issued Special Publication No. 17, @ \$9.00: *Eskimo Curlew*.

PINNACLES NATIONAL MONUMENT WILDFLOWER SHUTTLE BUS

Entrance fees for the Monument are three dollars per family or one dollar per person, and during the season of high usage to see the wildflowers, the Park Service has initiated a free shuttle bus service. Operating from the east and west entrances as soon as parking lots are filled, the new service will avoid the inconvenience of long waits in line for a parking space in the Monument.

NEW AT THE BOOK NEST

Richardson Audubon Preserve

A new volume in Houghton Mifflin's series which has already offered *Seabirds* and *Shorebirds*. *Waterfowl* by Steven Madge, is a guide to ducks, geese and swans. It is priced at \$35. One hundred fifty species are covered, and illustrations of all major plumages and subspecies are in color.

For birders with access to IBM-compatible personal computers, there is *BIRDBASE*, a data base manager of birding. Up to nine different life-lists can be displayed. Sighting records are sorted as they are entered and can be displayed with selection by one or more of the following: place, date, life list, species, first sightings. Changes are easily accommodated, including bird names, species splits and combinations. The price is \$39.95.

FREMONT BIRDING CLASSES

The Fremont Adult School and instructor Alice Hoch will offer a series of six birding classes covering field identification, life styles, and ecology of local birds. Each class will visit a different birding spot. The class will meet Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 12:30 with registration at 9:30 a.m. on the first day of the series in room 1 of the Fremont Adult School, 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont. Classes are limited to fifteen members.

Tuesday, April 19 is the first class. Bring binoculars and be prepared to bird that morning. For information phone the school at 791-5841.

Special field trip to Mines Rd. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, April 30. Participants must pre-register by Tuesday, April 26 by mail or in person. The fee is \$17.50. Meet at the flagpole at 8:30. Students wishing to meet in the field should phone Alice Hoch at 657-0475. Bring binoculars, snacks, lunch and beverages. Expect to see spring wildflowers, Phainopepla, Lewis' Woodpecker, California Thrasher, Golden Eagle, Western Bluebirds, orioles, wrens, hawks, hummingbirds, and flycatchers. Hope to see Roadrunners and turkeys.

GGAS NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee was named at the February meeting of the chapter board. Its members include Tom White, Jan Anderson and John Nutt; their phone numbers are listed in the roster at p. 64. Please call one of them to suggest nominees for membership on the board of directors.

NEWS FROM THE RANCH

Audubon Canyon Ranch

Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach (415) 868-9244

Wildlife Sanctuaries & Centers for Nature Education

Under Joint Sponsorship of Golden Gate, Madrone,

Marin and Sequoia Audubon Societies

Rick Baird, Chairman

Twenty one members of the 1988 Docent Training Class for the Bouverie Audubon Preserve graduated in February.

On March 26 more than twenty new Ranch Guides joined the ranks of weekend docents working at the Bolinas Preserve. The program initiated last season has proved very successful. There has been a 100 percent return of last year's guides. Guides are stationed at the pond, the overlook, the horse trough and this year at Clem Miller Overlook to help the public understand the ranch's ecology.

March first Anne Monk, ACR's biologist educator, accepted the position of Director of Education at Marine World Africa USA in Vallejo. John Kelly, resident biologist at Cypress Grove, who worked half time will be full time for ACR from the same date.

ACR has received a generous contribution from the Frank A. Campini Foundation. Frank Campini was a member of the ACR board of directors for a number of years before his death. The prestigious New York Community Trust also recently made a gift to the ranch.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 15 the fourth annual Downhill Hike will be held in Picher Canyon at the Bolinas Preserve. The day is designed for those who hike occasionally.

May 28/29 Watercolor Wildflowers, intermediate class with Nell Melcher, will be held at the Bolinas Preserve.

The May community hikes at the Bouverie Preserve will be the 7th and 21st. By reservation only, so call ahead (707) 938-4554.

BIRD-A-THON

(continued from page 53)

Help ease our financial shortfall brought on by a reduction in our dues split from National Audubon, and help support Audubon's ongoing efforts at Mono Lake. Your contribution will enable GGAS and National Audubon to carry on critical conservation programs.

Participate in any of these ways:

Join one or more teams in the field and pledge 25 cents or more per bird. You can of course limit your pledge to any amount you choose.

If you can't come out that day, make your pledge to the chapter list, a compilation of all species seen on the blitz-a-thon. You can do this through the office by mail or phone, or phone any of the trip leaders.

Or go birding yourself and create your own blitz-a-thon list and send us 25 cents per species.

And if you REALLY want to help, have your friends sponsor your efforts. Ask friends at work or in the neighborhood to pledge an amount per species seen by you. It may just add up to you receiving one of the significant prizes awarded by National Audubon to the largest money-making chapter. A sample sponsor pledge sheet appears elsewhere in this issue. We will send each participant a complete list of the bird species seen that day which can be copied for each sponsor.

The goal here is to have a great birding experience and to raise a sizable amount of money for conservation, to be shared equally between Mono Lake, one of National's ongoing projects, and our own Bay wetland projects. Obviously worthy causes and a chance to win some exciting prizes! National

(continued on next page)

GIFTS and BEQUESTS

FOR GGAS

In Memory of
Kathryn Harris

FOR THE DISTRIBUTION CENTER CASE

In Memory of
Les Cantrell

Gift of

Inez Troxell

Wayne Lazarus
Geoffrey H. Gould
Alyce Bezman Tarcher
Caroline Lichtenstein
Louise Waldorf
Kelli A. Craft

Dorothy Ruef

The Society welcomes gifts in general or gifts in honor of or in memory of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor or, if unspecified, at the discretion of the GGAS Board of Directors. This includes their use for general GGAS activities or for special programs of the Society including Audubon Canyon Ranch of which GGAS is a sponsor. Please send your gift in the form of a check made out to Golden Gate Audubon Society, 1550 Shattuck Ave., #204, Berkeley, CA 94709. All gifts are tax deductible. The Society is also appreciative of any bequests. Such bequests should specify as recipient the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in *The Gull* as well as personally on behalf of the Society by the Secretary.

BIRD-A-THON *(continued from page 61)*

Audubon is encouraging the competitive spirit in all of us by offering prizes to the first, second and third place winners in each of three chapter size categories. The group prizes include Leitz, Zeiss, Nikon and Minolta binoculars, cameras, special edition prints, Sanctuary and Camp scholarships. These prizes will be awarded to the winning chapter who will then choose winners based on highest dollar amount of funds raised per participant. In past bird-a-thons (without prize incentives) we have placed third and sixth nationwide. So it is possible to win—and win big—for you personally, and the environment. Find sponsors and join the struggle and the fun!

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA BIRD BLITZ

Meet at 7 a.m. at Muni Pier, at the foot of Van Ness Ave. in San Francisco. From there we will race for birds on the north Peninsula. We anticipate caravanning to the Presidio, Golden Gate Park, Seal Rocks, Lake Merced and other spots, perhaps as far south as Mountain View. We hope to see at least 100 species before we stop for dinner around 7 p.m.

Here is your chance to build a great day list, become familiar with many of the peninsula's birding hot spots, join friends for a day in the field, and help in a major G.G.A.S fund raising event.

Bring your pledge sheet or sign-up at the beginning of the day. You should be prepared for a long day in the field. Wear layered clothing so you will be comfortable along the coast where it may be foggy and windy, or in the interior where it may be quite warm. Sun

screen, lunch and liquids are necessary as well.

If you plan to join us for dinner at Celia's Mexican Restaurant please call the leader for reservations.

Leader: Dan Murphy (564-0074)

EAST BAY BIRD BLITZ

Meet Saturday, April 23, at the Tilden Regional Park Nature Center parking lot at 7:00 a.m. to look for land birds (warblers, vireos and other returning summer visitors). On to Briones (oak woodland) and then the Martinez Sewage Ponds, an incomparable lunch stop where co-leader George Peyton will treat the participants to some of his special wine selections. After lunch the blitz continues to Alameda South Shore (water birds), Coyote Hills and perhaps the Davis St. Dump. Bring lunch and be prepared to spend all day. Dinner at a local restaurant after the blitz is optional. Leader: David Rice (527-7210) and Lina Prairie. Wine steward: George Peyton.

ALAMEDA-SAN LEANDRO SHORELINE

Saturday, April 23—Alameda and San Leandro Shoreline. Meet at 9 a.m. in Alameda, at Broadway Shoreline Dr. We will bird the Elsie B. Roemer Bird Sanctuary and San Leandro Regional Shoreline. Toward the end of the day will look for Burrowing Owls on Bay Farm Island. Be sure to bring lunch and liquids. This is Bird-a-thon opportunity as well as a regular field trip. We should see migrating shorebirds, many in breeding plumage. Leader: Leora Feeney (522-8525).



Golden Gate Audubon Society

A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
SERVING SAN FRANCISCO AND PARTS OF ALAMEDA AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES

BIRDATHON PLEDGE FORM

NAME AND ADDRESS	PHONE	PLEDGE PER BIRD
1. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
2. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
3. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
4. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
5. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
6. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
7. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
8. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
9. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____
10. _____ _____	_____ ZIP _____	\$ _____

PLEASE LIST ADDITIONAL NAMES ON THE OTHER SIDE OR ON ANOTHER SHEET.

BIRDATHONER'S NAME _____

AREA COVERED _____ SPECIES TOTAL _____

— SECOND CLASS MATTER



Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

Office: 843-2222

1550 Shattuck Avenue #204

Berkeley, California 94709

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64

THE GULL

GGAS ROSTER OF OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

OFFICERS

President, Arthur Feinstein (282-5937)* — 88

First Vice President, Tom White (821-6933) — 90

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